

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Claims 1, 2, 14-15, 18-19 and 23 remain active in this application.

The claimed invention is directed to a 1,3-furanedione reaction product of 2-propylheptanol with 2,3-epoxypropanes.

Applicants wish to thank examiner Solola for indicating that claims 3 and 23 are in condition for allowance. Applicants have now amended claim 1 to include all of the limitations of allowed claim 3. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the canceled subject matter in one or more divisional applications.

In addition applicants have amended claims 14, 15, 18 and 19 to clarify the reaction of a compound of formula Ia and formation of a compound of formula I. Applicants have also amended claim 18 to clarify the number of reaction steps. In view of applicants' amendments, withdrawal of the rejections of claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph written description and of claims 15 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph is respectfully requested.

Applicants submit that this application is now in condition for allowance and early notification of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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